

A study of the efficacy and safety of albendazole (Zentel) in the treatment of intestinal helmenthiasis in Kenyan children less than 2 years of age

Abstract:

One hundred children comprising of 57 males and 43 females aged between 8 and 24 months entered the study. 46 children had single and 54 children had multiple helminth infections. All children received albendazole 200 mg (10 ml) suspension as a single dose. Albendazole proved very effective and safe in the treatment of single and multiple helminth infections in children under 2 years of age, achieving cure rates of 100% in both *Ascaris lumbricoides* and *Necator americanus* respectively, 83% in *Trichuris trichiura* and 66% in *Hymenolepis nana*. Treatment of polyparasitism appears to be of benefit in improving nutritional status using haemoglobin concentrations as an index.